

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is thanked for noting a typographical error at claim 14 which has now been corrected by the above amendment.

The rejection of claims 1-17 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being made “obvious” based on Takao ‘652 and Takao ‘762 is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner asserts that applicants have not sufficiently shown unexpected properties for the claimed ceramics vis-à-vis the teachings of the cited prior art.

In an attempt to demonstrate such unexpected properties, claim 1 has now been amended so as to incorporate the limitations of prior claim 8.

As amended, claim 1 describes that the amount of fluctuation of $E_{33\text{large}}$ is within $\pm 15\%$. Crystal oriented ceramics according to amended claim 1 demonstrate superior temperature characteristics, in which the amount of fluctuation of displacement with respect to temperature is small, and easily controllable.

It is not believed that the cited references teach or suggest such unexpected properties. It is also noted that the Examiner has not commented specifically upon this unexpected property but, instead, merely asserts that those of ordinary skill in the art would expect the suggested ceramics, having overlapping compositions, to inherently have improvement rates and differences that at least overlap the claimed ranges of claims 3-12. Applicant respectfully disagrees. The references fail to teach the feature and effects as now recited in amended claim 1.

Since all other claims depend directly or indirectly from claim 1, it is not believed necessary at this time to detail additional deficiencies of the cited references with respect to other

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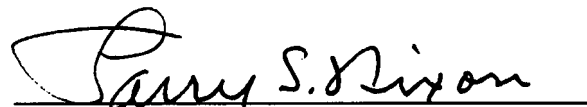
features of claim 1 and/or with respect to the additional features brought out by the various dependent claims.

Accordingly, this entire application is now believed to be in allowable condition and a formal Notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Larry S. Nixon", is written over a horizontal line.

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